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BLACK FRIDAY 2011

- Braving the crowds this weekend?
- We've got expert tips to save you more, inside info on the best deals and gift ideas for everyone on your list

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saving tips

Shop smart on Black Friday

Don't enter the King of Prussia hordes as a sleepy Thanksgiving zombie Money-saving expert Andrea Woroch on making the most of deals Plus, a survival pack to get you through the day – or at least to lunch

For some people, the idea of waking up at 5 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving to battle mall crowds is about as appealing as Tofurkey. But for others, even in the age of Cyber Monday and free shipping, it's all about the hunt.

"Every year we see an increase of people turning to online shopping, but with Black Friday you still get lots of crowds," says Andrea Woroch, a consumer and money-saving expert for Kinoli Inc. "There are people who like to find those door-busting deals, and sure enough, there are still great deals to be had out there."

That said, even Black Friday die-hards can learn a little from their tech-savvy counterparts. Here are Woroch's top tips for shopping smart in the midst of retail madness.

Have a plan

"One of the most important things you can do is plan ahead and find out what the deals are going to be across several different stores," says Woroch. "Let's say there's a huge discount on a TV at Target — call ahead and ask how many they have in stock. Map out a route, or go to a mall where there are a variety of stores."

Pro tip

If you know what stores you'll be shopping at in advance, visit **Giftcardgranny.com**, where you can buy gift cards at less than face value from sellers who would rather have the cash. "You can save anywhere from an additional 5 percent to 35 percent," says Woroch.

Hit the road early

You'll want to set the alarm for a disturbing hour not just for the deals, but to ensure a leisurely day. "It pays to be out there early because the door-busters will be limited in quantity. The earlier you shop, the more time you have to hit retailers and feel like you can get lunch. That's important — you should also enjoy the crazy holiday shopping frenzy."

Take advantage of price-matching

"Remember that big merchants like Sears, Home Depot and Wal-Mart are really beefing up their price-matching guarantees. They'll meet or beat a competitor's price. Have your smartphone with you to download and present barcodes that cashiers can price-match while you're at

Gifts for you

Your shopping survival kit

Hitting the stores on Black Friday? Be prepared, brave shopper!

1 While we're sure some dried fruit or nuts would be ideal fuel, come on — it's officially the holidays. Pretzel Crisps' new Dark Chocolate & Peppermint flavor are the perfect combo of salty, sweet and festive to have waiting in your car. **$3, at various supermarkets**

2 Bring a bottle of water so you don't fall victim to sugary, high-calorie (but so delicious) mall lemonade. Mavea's home filtration system makes for seriously pure H2O, but we also love the look of their pitcher, which is sleek enough to make a guest appearance at holiday dinner parties. **$35 at Macy's and Williams-Sonoma stores**

3 Did Thanksgiving dinner include an after-party? Blowfish is a new FDA regulated hangover remedy that you dissolve in water and swill the morning after. Follow with bagels for best results. **$12 for six doses www.forhangovers.com**

4 Make a wind-down bubble bath extra sweet with Vitabath's new Cupcake Couture collection, available in scents such as Luscious Lemon Creme and Dreamy Pink Frosting. **$10 each, Ulta and Bed, Bath & Beyond stores**

5 We weren't going to recommend a bubble bath without candles. Crabtree & Evelyn's Noel candle has a delightful Christmas mix of cranberry, evergreen and cinnamon scents. **$45, www.crabtree-evelyn.com**

6 Don't think we forgot the bubble bath bubbly. The "magnum" bottle of Mionetto Prosecco Brut contains two bottles' worth of the dry, apple-kissed sparkling wine. It was, after all, a long day. **$25, www.mionettousa.com**

▶ In a new survey by ConsumerSearch.com, 61 percent of respondents said they plan to shop in stores on Black Friday.

the store."

Load up on apps

There are a ton of apps out there to help you shop savvy. Woroch recommends Amazon's free Price Check app — which allows you to scan barcodes and compare them to in-store prices — and Sale Saver, a supercalculator that computes the actual price of an item after that additional 20 percent off, sales tax and coupons. But the gold standard is Coupon Sherpa, which synchs with your GPS to find paperless coupons, which cashiers can scan right off your phone.

Only buy what you need

"Retailers are already out there offering deals," says Woroch. "They want to create a sense of urgency — but they'll offer that 40 percent off again. Do your research, know how much things cost and take advantage of a deal only when you need it."

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monica.weymouth@metro.us

Mall opening times

Franklin Mills
1455 Franklin Mills Circle
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Philadelphia Premium Outlets
18 West Lightcap Rd., Limerick
Opening at midnight

King of Prussia Mall
160 N. Gulph Rd., King of Prussia
Opening at 4 a.m.

Montgomery Mall
230 Montgomery Mall, North Wales
Opening at 4 a.m.

Gallery at Market East
901 Market St.
Opening at 5 a.m.

Granite Run Mall
1067 W. Baltimore Pike, Media
Opening at 5 a.m.

Plymouth Meeting Mall
500 W. Germantown Pike, Plymouth Meeting
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Willow Grove Park Mall
2500 W. Moreland Rd., Willow Grove
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Available on the App Store

shopping & sales

Who's been naughty, and who's nice?

- Every year, Consumer Reports magazine looks at the shopping policies of major companies and does Santa's work for him
- How a few brands measured up

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Best Buy previously landed on the "naughty" list for return policies. Will a "Harry Potter" screening for early customers make them "nice" this year? Check www.consumerreports.org.

NAUGHTY

AirTran: Discounted coach and on-sale tickets don't include the price of a seat, which costs an extra $6-$20 each way at the time of booking.

RadioShack: The company sometimes charges different prices for items depending on whether it was bought online or at the store, including one instance where the cost of an HDMI cable in-store was nearly twice the cost of the online price.

American Apparel: Offers two return policies with no explanation — online customers get full refunds while store shoppers only receive merchandise credit.

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NICE

American Express: Can refund the full purchase price of covered items up to $300 when cardholders are unsuccessful in returning them to a merchant within 90 days.

REI: Accepts returns or exchanges at any time for any reason in-person or by mail, whether you bought it online, in the store or at an REI Outlet.

Live Nation: Gives fans 72 hours to cancel their ticket order and get a refund at many venues up to one week before the event.

CONTRIBUTED BY CONSUMER REPORTS

In-store deals

Gap

Save up to 60 percent off the entire store Nov. 23-27. Special Friday-only promos include select $19 women's jeans and $15 GapKids and babyGap fleece hoodies.
www.gap.com

Armani Exchange

You'll receive $50 off every $150 purchase in stores from Nov. 24-28.
www.armaniexchange.com

American Eagle, aerie and 77kids

All full-price and on-sale items in stores are 40 percent off from Nov. 23-27.
www.ae.com

French Connection

In stores, you'll receive 30 percent off all full-price and sale items Nov. 23-28. Prefer online? Enter discount FCBLKFRI for the same deals.
www.frenchconnection.com

Staples

Early bird deals (6 a.m. to noon) on Black Friday include $200-$300 off HP Laptops, $199 BlackBerry PlayBook Tablets and a $50 HG Photosmart Plus wireless printer. For locations and more deals, visit **www.staples.com/blackfridayevent.**

Kmart

Kmart stores are opening at 5 a.m. on Black Friday. Your reward for arriving early? Door-buster deals including PlayStation 3 2011 Holiday Bundles for $200, 50 percent off family outerwear, 70 percent off fine jewelry and 10 percent off major appliances.

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sales

Don't forget the home

Our favorite affordable Swedish design store, IKEA, is offering deals — and goodwill — all weekend long

Daily deals

- **Friday:** Score the best-selling children's Mala Easel for $9.99 (regular price: $14.99). Don't forget the Mala Chalk ($1.99) to spark your little artists' imaginations.

- **Saturday:** The 365+ seven-piece stainless steel cookware set includes the essential pots and pans (and lids!) needed to whip up any holiday meal for just $19.99 (regular price: $39.99). Pair with the Direkt three-piece kitchen utensil ($3.99) for your own Iron Chef's kitchen.

- **Sunday:** The Expedit shelving unit — the perfect little cubby — gets a perfect little price tag: $19.99 (regular price: $39.99). Store important documents — like Christmas wish lists — in the Kassett Magazine Boxes ($9.99 for a two-pack), which fit perfectly into the Expedit shelves.

AMBER RAY

A frog for a good cause

With every purchase of a soft toy at IKEA through Dec. 24, the retailer will donate approximately $1.47 ($1 Euro) to UNICEF and Save the Children's educational programs. IKEA's adorable plushies (we love the Fabler Groda fairy frog) range from $1.49 up to $19.99 — but this weekend only, these soft toys will be on sale for 50 percent off.

take it from a turkey, it's not healthy to be plump.

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wrapping

5 Holiday gift-wrapping tips from DailyCandy

Score big on Black Friday? You're not quite done just yet DailyCandy correspondent SuChin Pak shows us how to wrap those gifts up right

1 Make a statement with ribbon and twine
Consider ribbon and twine your presents' key accessory — let it do the talking.
- **Kate's Paperie Satin Ribbon, $.73-$2.80 per yard,** www.katespaperie.com
- **Knot & Bow Glitter Twine, $20,** www.etsy.com/shop/knotandbow

1

2 Get crafty with wrapping paper
Use brown craft paper or a combination of stamps and old calendars to bring a hint of nostalgia to your holiday presents.

1

3 Personalized gift tags
Use on-trend gift tags to make your present feel current and fashion forward.
- **Seahorse Gift Tags, $3,** www.etsy.com/shop/decadentdesigns

3

4 Seal it
Decorative tape adds a bit of flair to any package.
- **Tape Swell tapes, $7,** www.tapeswell.com

4

5 Add a card
Don't forget to add a card and give your best wishes for the New Year.

CONTRIBUTED BY DAILY CANDY

Metro pick

Old-school holiday cards

Pardon us for the shameless plug, but when not making our pages look pretty, Metro designer Stephanie Hinderer creates some seriously cute greeting cards over at Red Letter Paper Company. This Christmas, embrace snail mail with the "not sent from my iPhone" series, complete with a pixilated evergreen.
$16 (set of five), www.etsy.com/shop/redletterpaperco
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sales

Keep it local: Boutique sales

Whether you're shopping for fashionistas, music nerds or vintage fiends, local businesses have what you're looking for ◐ Our picks for this weekend's sales

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Arcadia Boutique will knock 30 percent off black items on Black Friday.

▶ **Record Store Day**
www.recordstoreday.com
As in years past, Record Store Day will coincide with the holiest of shopping days. You won't find door-buster sales beginning at ungodly hours, but you will find musicians and fans geeking out over exclusive releases, re-issues and box sets. If you've got a music nerd on your list, impress them with a rock rarity from participating shops like AKA Music in Old City (27 N. Second St.), The Marvelous! in West Philly (208 S. 40th St.) or Main Street Music in Manayunk (4444 Main St.).

▶ **Adresse**
1706 Locust St.
www.adressephiladelphia.com
This swanky Rittenhouse boutique will be having a sale both Friday and Saturday — in case you don't feel like braving the streets until after the dust of Black Friday settles. Certain items will be on sale at 30 percent off, including designs by Chloe, Stella McCartney and Lela Rose.

▶ **Fire & Ice Jewelry**
The Shops at Liberty Place
1625 Chestnut St.
www.shopsatliberty.com
Want to put a rock on her finger this season? The entire store will be marked down 20 percent all day long. If you spend $75 or more you get a $25 gift certificate — but get there early because that deal only lasts until noon. If you spend $100 or more you receive a free hand-blown glass ornament — hello, free gift for mom!

▶ **Bus Stop**
750 S. Fourth St., www.busstopboutique.com
Bus Stop's "Black on Black" party includes a 20 percent discount on certain black winter kicks. Enjoy free refreshments and styling tips while you shop (5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and browse attire from special guest Three Sirens Boutique.

Matiko pumps are on sale at Bus Stop.

Sazz Vintage

38 N. Third St.
www.sazzvintage.com
Sazz is hosting a three-day sale after Thanksgiving where everything will be 40 percent off, excluding those extra special goodies marked "firm." While they specialize in men's vintage and carry plenty of adorable vintage for the ladies, too, it's also the mecca for ugly Christmas sweaters.

This year, take the gold at your Ugly Christmas Sweater party.

▶ **Velvet Lily**
1040 N. Second St., Suite 201
www.thevelvetlily.com
Heat up the holidays this season with a very grown-up gift from Velvet Lily, where you can find plenty of modern adult gifts for him and her that range from sweet and tame to downright wild. Select merchandise will be 10-20 percent off.

▶ **Arcadia Boutique**
819 N. Second St.; 265 S. 20th St., www.arcadiaboutique.com
Arcadia is also getting into the "Black on Black" spirit. Take 30 percent off any black merchandise — including sale items — and 15 percent off everything else, just because they like you.

▶ **Rittenhouse Needlepoint**
1737 Chestnut St., second floor
www.rittenhouseneedlepoint.com
This year Black Friday happens to fall on Rittenhouse Needlepoint's third anniversary, which mean you crafters win big. On Friday and Saturday the store will take 10 percent off everything in the shop and on their website. (If you shop online be sure to use the code THREEYEARS at checkout.) As a special thanks, the first five customers to spend $50 or more will receive a special goody bag.

▶ **Philly AIDS Thrift**
710 S. Fifth St., 215-922-3186
www.phillyaidsthrift.com
You don't have to get up before dawn but you can't sleep too late, either. One of our favorite thrift stores, which recently moved to a new location, will be half-off from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. — including sale items. So stock up on quirky knickknacks.

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

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monica.weymouth@metro.us

2
There's a little something Indiana Jones about Saddleback Leather's classic briefcase, which is made from hardy boot leather so it breaks in like a trusty pair of go-to shoes. $519, www.saddlebackleather.com
5
4

1. Ralph Lauren's knit vest is the rare vest that doesn't look ridiculous outside of a hot cocoa commercial. **$145, www.ralphlauren.com**

3. Designed for cyclists, Levi's Commuter jeans have a utility waistband for easy U-lock storage, reflective tape on the cuffs and just enough stretch for comfy pedaling. **$78, at Urban Outfitters stores**

4. Everyone expects a chunky cable-knit under the tree, but Orlebar Brown's lightweight, cotton-silk scarf is more suited for a cool night on the beach. **$79, www.orlebarbrown.com**

5. For every pair of their hand-painted One for One series, TOMS will donate to provide prescription glasses or sight-saving treatment to a person in need. **$135, www.toms.com**

Read more on page 14

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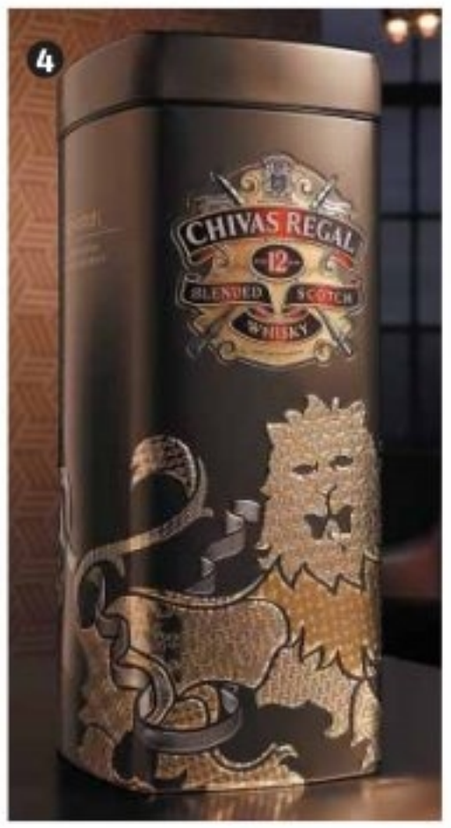
gift guide



1. The Onions' Beer Lover Gift Pack includes an "I Enjoy Drinking Beer" tee, two pint glasses with measures for liquids from barium to soda, a framed front-page beer story and, of course, the reason you'd buy someone this: A magnet featuring the headline "Study: Alligators Dangerous No Matter How Drunk You Are." It's true. **$82, www.store.theonion.com**

2. Seltzer's "Seven Year" pens can write up to two meters a day for seven years thanks to a barrel that holds about six times the amount of ink as your average pen. We particularly like this dapper fellow. **$7.50, www.seltzergoods.com**

3. With their stylish plaid wrappers, Sir Richard's condoms are the only prophylactics we'd recommend as stocking stuffers. Plus, for every condom brought, Sir Richard — ever the gentleman — donates one to a developing country. **$13-$14, at Whole Foods stores**

4. Chivas Regal's holiday bottle comes in a fancy limited-edition tin by New York illustrator Dan Funderburgh. You know what it doesn't come with? Brookstone stainless steel ice cubes. You've gotta add those to the package for the whisky win. **Whisky: $35, www.chivas.com; ice cubes: $25 for six, www.brookstone.com**

5. MCMC's woodsy, spicy beard oil is 100 percent natural and 100 percent dude-approved. **$65, www.artintheage.com**

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Nick Cave: Let's C

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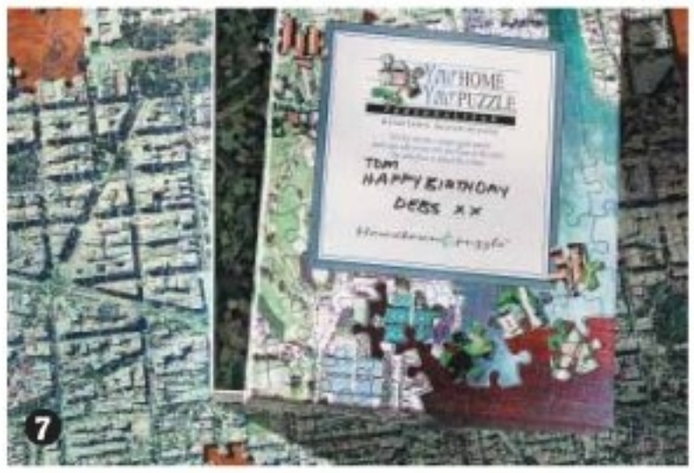
Image: Nick Cave, *Speak Louder*, 2011. Buttons, wire, bugle beads, upholstery, and mannequin. 98 X 68 1/2 X 54 inches (installed).
Photo by James Prinz, Chicago, courtesy of Nick Cave and the Jack Shainman Gallery, NY.



6. Got a gadget-head on your hands? Goal Zero's portable speakers are solar-powered and ready to hook up to your phone, laptop or MP3 player. **$39, www.goalzero.com**

7. At the risk of making sweeping generalizations, boys like maps. The National Geographic store is full of them, but our pick is for the personalized aerial view jigsaw puzzle. Your house is at the center of the satellite photo. **$50, www.shop.nationalgeographic.com**

8. A pack of personalized tees will never cut it after the GolfBuddy World GPS rangefinder. Pre-loaded with 33,000 courses and room for another 7,000, it maps out every single hole on the green. **$299, www.golfbuddyglobal.com**

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gift guide

Gifts for her

Make her wish list come true this year

- Things she needs are great
- But things she wants are even better

1. The concept for the "6 Packs/9 Lives" calendar is pretty simple: Hot guys and cute cats make every month that much better. Proceeds from the calendar benefit the Found Animals Foundation, an L.A.-based nonprofit that works to decrease animal shelter euthanasia. Without further ado, please meet Mr. December. **$14, www.foundanimals.org**

2. LUSH's "Brrrrilliant" box includes grapefruit-kissed Snow Globe soap and Australian Igloo sugar scrub to instantly warm up the chilly mornings ahead. And, um, did we mention it's perfectly wrapped? **$13, www.lush.com**

3. People have very personal, very strong, very loud views about Ugg boots. But the brand's classic duffle — made of rugged waxed canvas and finished off with rustic brass hardware — is a definite crowd-pleaser. **$345, www.uggaustralia.com**

4. We love these Diane von Furstenberg "Zoe" shades for snowy mornings and sunny shores alike. **$165, available soon at www.dvf.com**

5. Give her a little something to look forward to with Crabtree & Evelyn's "shed bag," which comes complete with veggie-printed gardening tools and pampering potions for the greenest of thumbs. **$48, www.crabtree-evelyn.com**

6. There's no shortage of

7

8

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9

10

12

11

blonde starlets hawking fragrances this time of year — and not all of them are girls you'd want to smell like. Our vote is for Taylor Swift's Wonderstruck, a subtle fruity scent that's almost as pretty as its bottle. **$60 (3.4 oz.), at Macy's stores**

7. Even if she doesn't usually wear perfume, Viva La Juicy's flirty little bottle has an irresistible Paris-after-hours appeal. **$98 (3.4 oz.), at Macy's stores**

8. Big bulky terrycloth robes are for your mom. Betsey Johnson's adorable little velour and satin robe definitely isn't. **$89, at Bloomingdale's stores and www.betseyjohnson.com**

9. These Converse high-tops are still classics, but a little extra special — just like her. **$100, www.converse.com**

10. At less than $30, Rubr watches make a trendy stocking stuffer for almost anyone. **$25, www.rubrwatchnation.com**

11. Soap & Glory's cheeky "Do a Bubble Take" gift set has all the makings for a perfectly decadent bubble bath. Minus — hint, hint — a bottle of bubbly. **$36, www.sephora.com**

12. Keep your snowbunny warm with Restoration Hardware's so-soft faux-fur booties and ushanka hat. **$19 (booties), $39 (hat), www.restoration hardware.com**

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gift guide

Gifts for hosts

Don't show with empty hands

- You don't have to do dishes or put your drunk friends in cabs
- The least you could do is bring your host a little something special

MONICA WEYMOUTH
monica.weymouth@metro.us

1. Bring your hosts treats to enjoy after everyone goes home. Iron Chef Jose Garces' artisan chocolate bars feature unexpected combos such as porcini and thyme. His Garces Trading Co. coffee will make a messy kitchen easier to wake up to. **Chocolate: $8, coffee: $14, www.grg-mgmt.com**

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2. Bringing blooms? These ceramic stone vases from the Museum of Modern Art's design store are an artful little extra and won't send your busy

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Don't forget

While you do need to send thank-you notes, they don't have to be boring. This cheeky little skull-and-cross-bones set from Seltzer is made from recycled paper with eco-friendly ink.

host scrambling for water. **$75, www.momastore.org**

3. Everyone brings a bottle of wine. Mix it up with this festive bar set from Olivia & Cocoa. **$78, www.oliveandcocoa.com**

4. Restoration Hardware's rustic brass ornaments have a subtle holiday feel that will fit in with any tree's decor. **$20-$32, www.restorationhardware.com**

5. Moet's Imperial Gift Box keeps bubbly chilled and is ready to go with a festive bow. Just add orange juice for the perfect morning-after gift. **$40, www.moet.com**

Online deals

Amazon.com

Amazon has some sweet deals for everyone who would rather shop in their PJs. Pay a visit to **www.amazon.com/blackfriday** to view all of their specials for Friday, including 99 cent DVDs, up to 50 percent off on select cashmere items and the PSP-3000 PlayStation Portable Core Pack for $99.

Everything But Water

Vacation on the horizon? Resort-wear brand Everything But Water isn't offering discounts this weekend, but they will donate 5 percent of all sales made Nov. 25-28 to the LUNGevity Foundation, a lung cancer awareness organization. Visit **www.everythingbutwater.com** to get shopping.

Ellington Handbags

Portland-based accessories brand Ellington Handbags is offering 20 percent off all regularly priced items at **www.ellingtonhandbags.com** Nov. 25-28. Enter the code JOY20 at checkout.

Marcia Patmos

We're loving the capsule collection of knits that Marcia Patmos did for Anthropologie under her Leroy & Perry label. But know what we love even more? That everything at **www.mpatmos.com** is 50 percent off on Black Friday. No lines, no packed dressing rooms required.

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gift guide

Gifts for kids

A little something for the little ones

Is it just us, or have toys gotten way cooler since we believed in Santa? Our picks for kids — and one or two for kids at heart

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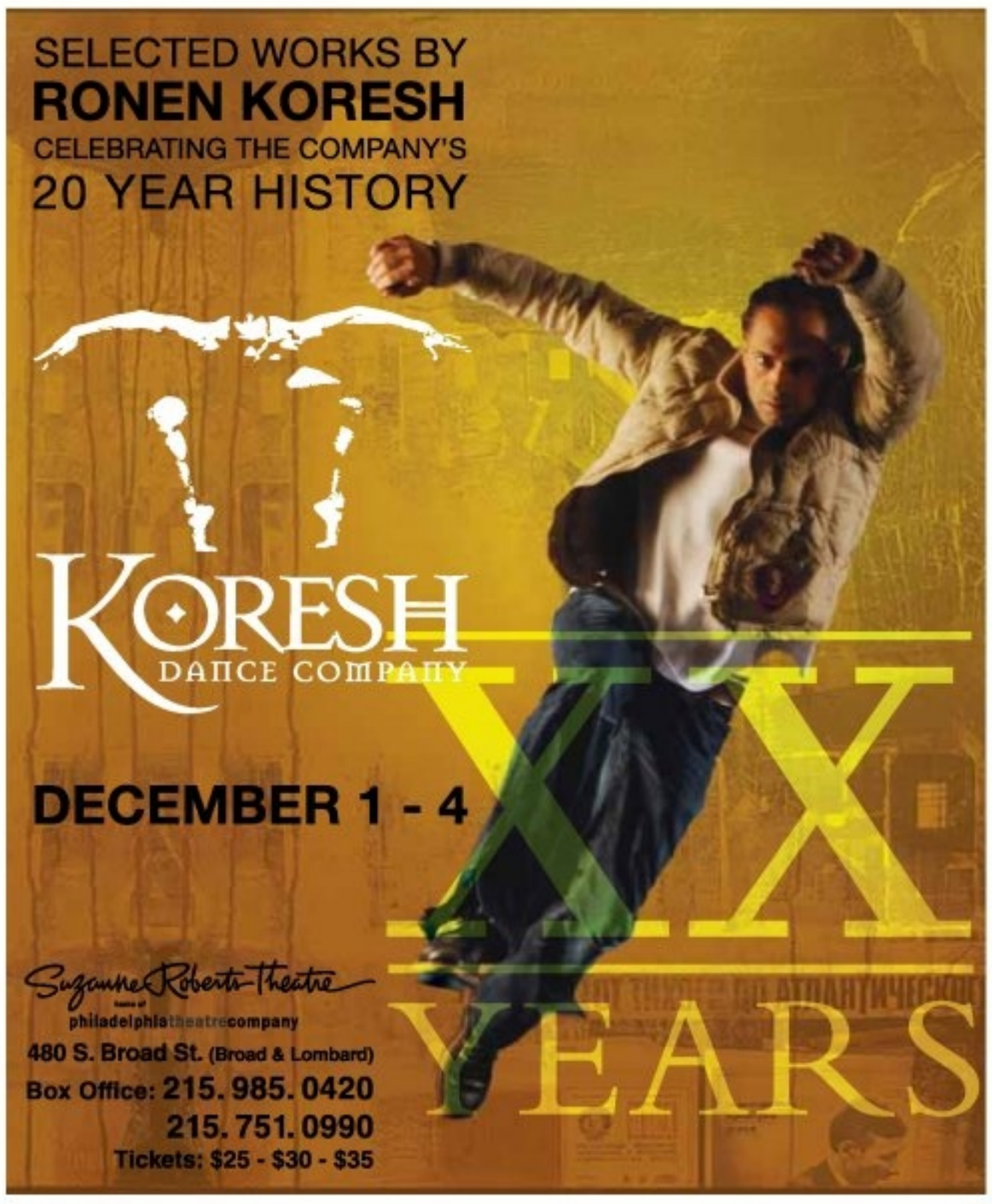
Get on Target

Target is offering more than 2,000 discounts on toys this holiday season. Pay a visit to **www.catalog.target.com/targetholiday** to page through their holiday toy catalog, which has over $350 in coupon savings — and more Barbies than we can resist.



7 Equipped with three wheels, the Mini Kick looks like a big kid's ride, but little ones won't topple as they practice their balance. $85, www.gilt.com

1. Keep their first Christmas nice and cozy with MyNatural Disney Blankies, made from natural cotton and colored with eco-friendly dyes. **$15, www.toysrus.com**

2. The "Sesame Street" gang are never going out of style. Let's Rock Elmo sings and plays instruments (don't worry — he's happy to share his drums with kiddos), while Count 'N Crunch Cookie Monster teaches numbers as he gobbles away. **Cookie: $30; Elmo: $70, www.hasbrotoyshop.com**

3. Meet Magical Fairy Dora: From what we understand about little girls, you cannot possibly go wrong with this one. **$30, www.shop.nick.com**

4. LEGO characters have come a long way since we last played with the little blockheads. This year, SpongeBob SquarePants and friends get in on the action. **$15-$20, www.shop.nick.com**

5. We have no idea when the EasyBake oven got this cool. Or started including red velvet cupcakes. But we do know we still want one — bad. **$50, www.hasbrotoyshop.com**

6. Hello, Kitty! This MP3 player can store more than 100 songs and keep sticky fingers off your iPhone. **$30, www.toysrus.com**

Read more on page 22

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gift guide

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5

Want to defend your title as the coolest aunt? The new Fretlight teaching guitar plugs into a USB port, then is ready to light up and guide you through finger placement with video lessons. $400-$800, www.fretlight.com

1. WallCandy's ice cream cone decal has a chalkboard surface for the budding Banksy eyeing up her bedroom walls. **$30, www.gilt.com**

2. Mattel's Monster High dolls put Barbie on notice. **$18, www.shop.mattel.com**

3. The Rover Spy Tank can travel up to 200 feet as it streams live video or pictures back to your iPhone, which acts as its steering wheel. Did we mention the night vision? Test this one out before putting it under the tree. **$150, www.brookstone.com**

4. Each Furreal Friends Newborn is so tiny it needs to be bottle-fed! Our vote is for the baby penguin, for obvious reasons. **$15, www.hasbrotoyshop.com**

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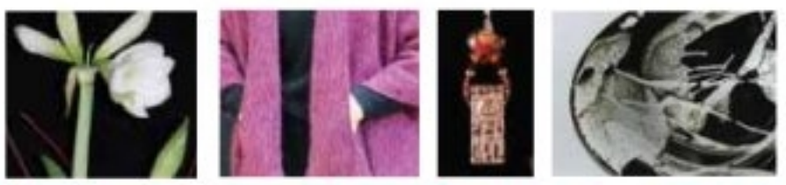

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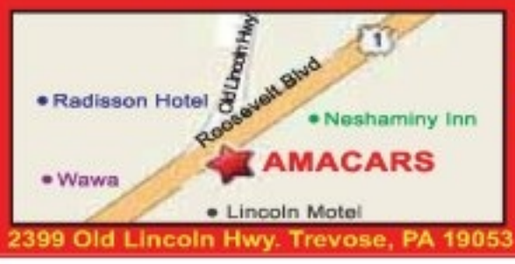

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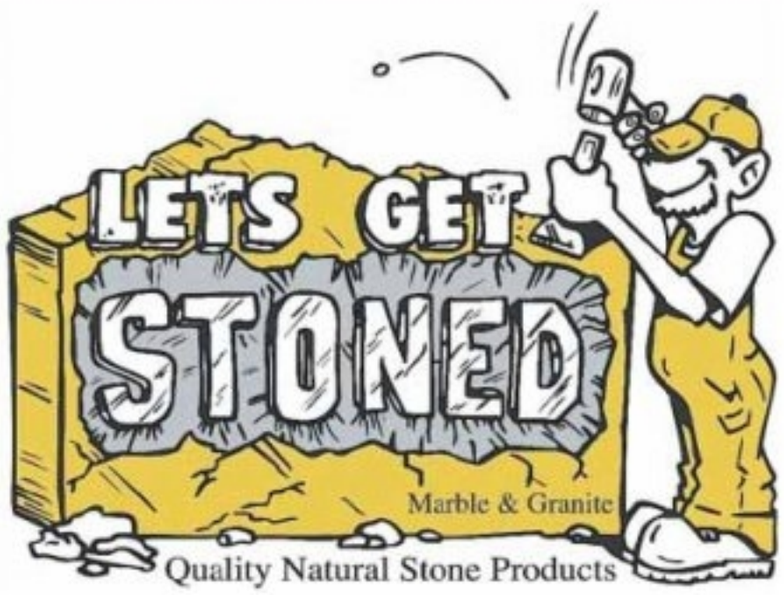

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gift guide

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Yelp's guide to shopping local

The Yelp "Shop Local" pledge encourages shoppers to spend some of their holiday gift budget at locally owned stores. Did you know that Americans will spend around $712 this holiday season on gifts? Even directing a portion of that to local businesses can mean a lot for our community. To make it even easier, Yelp has provided this gift guide featuring some of our favorite Philly shops. Happy hunting!

JON KOLBY

▶ Art in the Age is all stocked up with winter weather must-haves.

Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction
116 N. Third St.

Good For: Your artistic friend.
"Love love love. It's all you need, and this place has all of mine. Thank you, AiTA, for showing me Philadelphia is the place I belong. Crushing hard on this place." SHAWN M.

Gift Idea: Art in the Age's own line of super soft tees, $20

Halloween
1329 Pine St.

Good For: Women who love antique jewelry.
"Henri David turns metals and rocks into aphrodisiacs for the artsy, creative person that is important to you. The opal selection in particular is stunningly beautiful. The staff is really friendly and they are all too happy to meet any custom needs you may have. Every time I exit this establishment with a purchase, I sleep with like four painters on the way home. This place is that good." BRAD P.

Metro Mens Clothing
1615 E. Passyunk Ave.

Good For: Trendy men.
"The place has some great clothes at pretty reasonable prices. While some of the brands (Ben Sherman, Original Penguin) are available at several places in the city, I am always sold on supporting local business. The staff member was helpful and just the right amount of attentive." SURAJ P.

Lost + Found
133 N. Third St.

Good For: Trendy fashionistas.
"Most affordable boutique on Third Street Row and perhaps even in all of Old City. Accessories galore with reasonably priced shades, jewelry, scarves, hats and shoes. Great place for accessories and sale items. CATHERINE L.

Cohen & Co Hardware
615 E. Passyunk Ave.

Good For: Crafty dads and husbands (and crafty women, too!).
"Cohen & Co is just what I want from a 'mom and pop' hardware store: necessities, advice, connections and friendliness." JOHN F.

Franklin Square Boutique
128 N. Third St.

Good For: Trendy fashionistas.
"At some point I stumbled into Franklin Square. The boutique is lovely — all solid wood and littered with charming tchotchkes and adorable clothes for ladies. Stores like these make me almost wish I was a girl. So many fun options." JASON F.

Omoi
1608 Pine St.

Good For: Your goofy friend or sibling.
"Cute cute cute! This place gives such an inviting atmosphere, so I wasn't afraid to ask questions or browse. The staff members are very friendly and helpful." THAO N.

Open House
107 S. 13th St.

Good For: City-dwellers and home entertainers.
"This store had the most adorable stuff. My father and I went in on Valentine's Day and we were able to find the cutest martini glasses for my mother, the woman who has everything ... and that says something." KRISTIN C.

Gift Idea: Philadelphia coasters, $12

Wilbur: Vintage and Designer Clothing
716 S. Fourth St.

Good For: Fashionistas who love designer duds.
"The jewelry selection is especially amazing. Dan includes details about the pieces, including the decade, on the tag — which I just love. Blows away the competition. One of the best vintage shops anywhere." **TRACIE P.**

Smak Parlour
219 Market St.

Good For: Girly-girls.
"Love this place! Such a crazy little store filled to the brim with gorgeous, uniquely designed clothes and accessories — the jewelry is ridiculous, I think I want every pair of earrings in the place. And the books, lip glosses disguised as a tiny box of chocolates, the stunning artwork, the great home items. The sunglasses. The bags! And two of the friendliest girls there to steer you to whatever might work for you. This is what all city boutiques should aspire to be." **TERI R.**

Gift idea: Femme Feather Soft Gloves, $20

Verde
108 S. 13th St.

Good For: Every woman.
"Love Verde. Not only is it around the corner from my office, but it is the best place to go when you can't think of what to get a friend, family member or co-worker. Verde sells everything from scarves to Marcie Blaine chocolates. The prices are reasonable, and they have a good selection of unique candles/perfumes." **LARISSA S.**

Arcadia
819 N. Second St., 265 S. 20th St.

Good For: Fashion-forward ladies.
"Professional, courteous and they answer dumb questions, too. I came here clueless. I was purchasing something for a birthday. I had seen it on the website and instead of paying for shipping, I decided to go to the store. I'm glad I did." **VINNY P.**

Gift idea: Blackburn Clutch, $88

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Artspace.com offers more than 400 original and limited-edition pieces, with prices starting around $100. On Black Friday, Metro readers will receive $25 off a single purchase — just enter "metro" as the discount code.

Co-founder Christopher Vroom has a little advice: "When buying art for new collectors, remember they're just getting started. We suggest works that are fun and a bit whimsical. Rebecca Graham's 'Bathtime with Clara and the Domesticated Alligator' is a great choice."
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music

Black Friday playlist

Shop with your buds — your earbuds

Holiday carols through the speakers at the mall? Bah humbug! On Friday, make your own soundtrack and rock out with this playlist.

▶ **'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,' Culture**
There's nothing wrong with getting into the spirit of the season, but do it on your own terms. Sometimes, your own terms might mean this chill reggae version of a classic, so you don't feel like it's something you've already heard a million times.

▶ **'Oh No,' Girl Talk**
This mashup has the colossal layering of personalities that the shopping experience offers. Plus it combines Black Sabbath power chords with Ludacris, saying "Move b—, get out-the the way."

▶ **'Pretty Boy Swag,' Soulja Boy Tell'em**
Speaking of "get out-the way," you might want to make this one your anthem too, and say "pretty boy comin' through."

▶ **'Bittersweet Symphony,' The Verve**
Ever see the video for this one? Singer Richard Ashcroft is just walking through the crowded street, banging into everybody else, totally oblivious that they're there because his song is so pretty. This tune will make you be that guy as you steamroll through the mall.

▶ **'Albatross,' Fleetwood Mac**
You'll definitely need a few zen moments with your headphones as you brave this aggressive shopping climate. This wordless tune by an early incarnation of Fleetwood Mac is a great start. If this instrumental gives you that crucial inner peace, also try R.E.M.'s "New Orleans Instrumental," and Yo La Tengo's "Return to Hot Chicken."

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cyber monday

Hard-to-find shopping just became easy

Let TheFind.com do all the legwork this holiday season Shopping search engine brings 'all of the stores to one place' Just browsing? There's an app for that

▶ The local tab on TheFind.com will generate search results found in physical stores near you.

Your holiday shopping mission: Find the ski jacket your girlfriend has been coveting in her very popular, usually-sells-out size and in the color she likes — and by the way, it's from last season. Luckily, you have a magic wand in the form of TheFind.com at your disposal.

"We bring all of the products from all of the stores to one place," explains TheFind CEO Siva Kumar. Through technologies that include data from Facebook's Open Graph, TheFind is able to comb through roughly half a million sites covering around 450 million products. (In comparison, "eBay worldwide has about 200 million items and Amazon has about 25 million items," Kumar says.)

But TheFind won't just track down that hard-to-find item — its search results also display prices, so you can find the best deal.

Now you can go ahead and buy those matching ski pants for your girlfriend, too.

Digital browsing

The search capabilities of TheFind are optimal when you know exactly what you're looking for. But shoppers who are "just browsing" can take advantage of the site's technology, too, with The Catalogue.

An app for the iPad and Android tablet devices, The Catalogue brings together more than 150 popular catalogs (including J.Crew, Saks, Crate & Barrel, Sephora and more) for electronic wish list-making.

▶ The Catalogue app is available on iPad and Android tablet devices.

THEFIND.COM

Kumar says that with this app: "[TheFind] doesn't assume you know what you want. Say you are looking for new jewelry — there are a lot of jewelry catalogs, and now you can look through them like you would at home — when you need them." All minus the coffee-table clutter.

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FOR MORE WAYS TO SAVE ONLINE THIS HOLIDAY

With its bar code scan technology, the Shopping by The Find app (for iPhone and Android) allows users to check prices online as well as while shopping in stores. Want to find a better price, specs or review of that Blu-ray player? Scan the bar code, and the app delivers. "People really use their phone as a shopping companion right inside the store," says Kumar. The app also features maps (in case that cheaper price tag is just a few blocks away) and alerts for coupons and shipping deals.

Top five

Black Friday deals on social media

Black Friday is a lot like Facebook — you're either obsessed with it, or you try to avoid it at all costs. It's also equally as fast and crowded, which is why the two are so perfect for each other!

This year, social media has become a great platform for many big companies hoping to cash in on the big day. Some are running contests for gift cards or exclusive pre-madness shopping sprees, and some are donating to charities each time a customer checks in to a store on location networks.

Although many participate in Black Friday shopping for the thrill or experience, technology has made it easier and — dare I say it — a little more fun. Here are some of the big campaigns to look out for.

▶ Facebook and Twitter are your portals to some of the best holiday deals to be had on Black Friday.

1 Amazon
Amazon is promoting a Countdown to Black Friday on its Facebook page. The company is offering one Gold Box deal along with multiple Lightning Deals appearing and expiring throughout each day this week. Things such as an LG 32" HDTV for $308.99 or Halo Reach on Xbox 360 for $29.96 are among the many deals on the site.

2 Wal-Mart
Wal-Mart has been promoting Black Friday on Facebook since around Halloween and had a successful first round of sales during a pre-Black Friday weekend on Nov. 5. Although Wal-Mart's upcoming Black Friday deals have already been released, the first to view the specials were the fans on its Facebook Page. Wal-Mart also announced on YouTube it will have three separate Black Friday events, ranging in special deal times from 10 p.m. on Thanksgiving to 8 a.m. the next day.

3 Toys R Us
Toys R Us is promoting more than 150 door busters on its Facebook page.

4 Macy's
Macy's is using Facebook-like gating to give customers an early jump start on its Black Friday deals, which are now posted from an app on the page. Bonus: They also have a pretty funny Black Friday commercial starring Justin Bieber. Macy's will donate $2 to the Make-A-Wish foundation for every one of his Someday gift sets sold on Black Friday, up to $100,000.

5 Lowes
Lowes has also taken to Facebook to give fans the first glance at Black Friday specials — but goes one step further. Fans are in control of what will be sold at a reduced price. The contenders, as Lowes calls it, are things like a stainless steel charcoal grill, table saw or Dyson vacuum. You also have the chance to win all 32 items or a $100 gift card.

CHRISTINE ERICKSON FOR Mashable
The Social Media Guide

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IN COLLABORATION WITH Alcatel·Lucent

Cyber Monday sales listings

Where to click and save on Nov. 28

chicBuds
15 percent off with code METRO15 through Dec. 31.
www.chicbuds.com
Metro pick: chicBuds Fauvette Speaker, $34.99 **(1)**

AT&T
Devices will be on sale for as low as 1 cent Black Friday through Cyber Monday.
www.att.com

Fred Flare
99 amazing gift items for less than $9.99.
www.fredflare.com
Metro pick: Candy Cane Shot Glass, $4.50 **(2)**

JCPenney
Special deals will be paired with free shipping on orders of $25 or more, Nov. 27-29.
www.jcpenney.com

REI
Save up to 30 percent on select winter gear, outerwear, clothing and boots. Free shipping on orders of $50 or more.
www.rei.com
Metro pick: Women's REI Lumen +25 Sleeping Bag , $149 **(3)**

SerendipiTea
25 percent off retail orders of $15 or more. Use promo code: CYBER MONDAY SAVINGS.
www.serendipitea.com

Get Maine Lobster
50 percent off the entire site.
www.getmainelobster.com

Adidas
Sunday and Monday, receive free shipping on all purchases with no minimum. Discounts include $15 off orders of $80 or more, $25 off orders of $100 or more and $40 off orders of $125 or more.
www.shopadidas.com

LOFT
40 percent off your entire purchase online and in store.
www.loft.com

L.L. Bean
10 percent off purchase (15 percent off with L.L. Bean Visa); free shipping (to the U.S. and Canada), no minimum purchase; free $10 gift card with $50 purchases through Dec. 24. **www.llbean.com**
Metro pick: Men's Maine Guide Shirt, Plaid, $139 **(4)**

Icebreaker
Check out the Icebreaker Touch-Lab SoHo page for updated info on deals: **www.facebook.com/pages/Icebreaker-Touch Lab-SoHo/166457053420337**
Metro pick: Women's Cascade Full Zip RealFleece Mid Layer, $180 **(5)**

Banana Republic
Nov. 26-28, save up to 40 percent off select styles.
www.bananarepublic.com

Endless
On Nov. 27-28, discounts include $30 off $100 orders, $60 off $200 orders and $100 off $300 orders.
www.endless.com

StocknGo.com
25 percent off of purchases $25 or more with code CYBER25.
www.stockngo.com

Space NK
Spend $150 online and enter code THANKS150 to receive a complimentary deluxe gift featuring an assortment of 10 beauty must-haves (while supplies last). **www.spacenk.com**

Luna and Stella
10 percent off purchases of $100 or more (12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.). Use code METROUS11.
www.lunaandstella.com
Metro pick: Moon & Stars Birthstone Necklace, prices start at $150 plus stones **(6)**

Jewelista.com
Free shipping and 20 percent off everything (11 a.m. to 3 p.m.). **www.jewelista.com**
Metro pick: Rose Gold PVD Steel Heart Stud Earrings, $139 **(7)**

Send the Trend
$15 jewelry and accessories.
www.sendthetrend.com

Swarovski Crystallized
The entire site will be 20 percent off. **www.swarovski-crystallized.com**

Amazon Cyber Monday deals

Here's a sample of what you can expect to find on Amazon.com:

- Bodum Bistro Electric Handheld Immersion Stick Blender, Orange: $49.99 (save $50)
- Tiny Love Move & Play Gymini: $50 (save $24)
- Freshwater Cultured Pearl Button Stud Earrings, Set of 3: $16.99 (save $63)
- Save up to 60 percent off sweaters and fleece for women, men, kids and baby
- Save over 50 percent on select Hasbro games
- "Thriller" by Michael Jackson (MP3 Download): $4.99

Stay on top of the savings

Major retailers like Amazon, Wal-Mart, BestBuy, Target and Kohls are expected to continuously update their Cyber Monday deals throughout the day, so keep checking back. For one-stop sites providing up-to-the-minute info on Cyber Monday sales across the Web, check out these helpful links.

- www.cybermonday.com
- www.promocodes2011.com
- www.dealio.com/cyber-monday.html

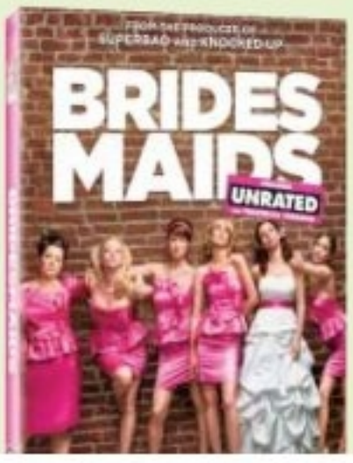
WWW.METRO.US/GIFTS FOR MORE CYBER MONDAY SALES

Movie magic

Deck the halls with DVDs

On of the best perks of shopping Cyber Monday is retailers' reactions to consumer demand — and competitors' price cuts. DVD titles are always prime candidates for price-slashing. And while we can't guarantee the titles on our list of gift picks will end up in your favorite website's 99-cent Cyber Monday bin, it is a good bet that you won't find them on sale cheaper than you will Nov. 28.

'Bridesmaids' [DVD with bonus features]
A hilarious, honest celebration of the friendships of women — unrated.
List price: $29.98



'ESPN Films: 30 for 30 Limited Edition Collector Set' [DVD]
Some of the greatest and most controversial moments in sports history are revisited through the lens of filmmakers including Albert Maysles, Barry Levinson, John Singleton and Peter Berg. The 12-disc set features all 30 films from the series.
List price: $149.95

'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2' [Three-disc Blu-ray/DVD combo]
The saga of the magical boy wizard who inspired the imagination of kids of all ages comes to an end.
List price: $35.99

'Ken Burns' Prohibition' [Blu-ray]
Here's a toast to documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, who uses well-documented history and lesser-known stories to shed light on an important moment in America's past — the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
List price: $44.99

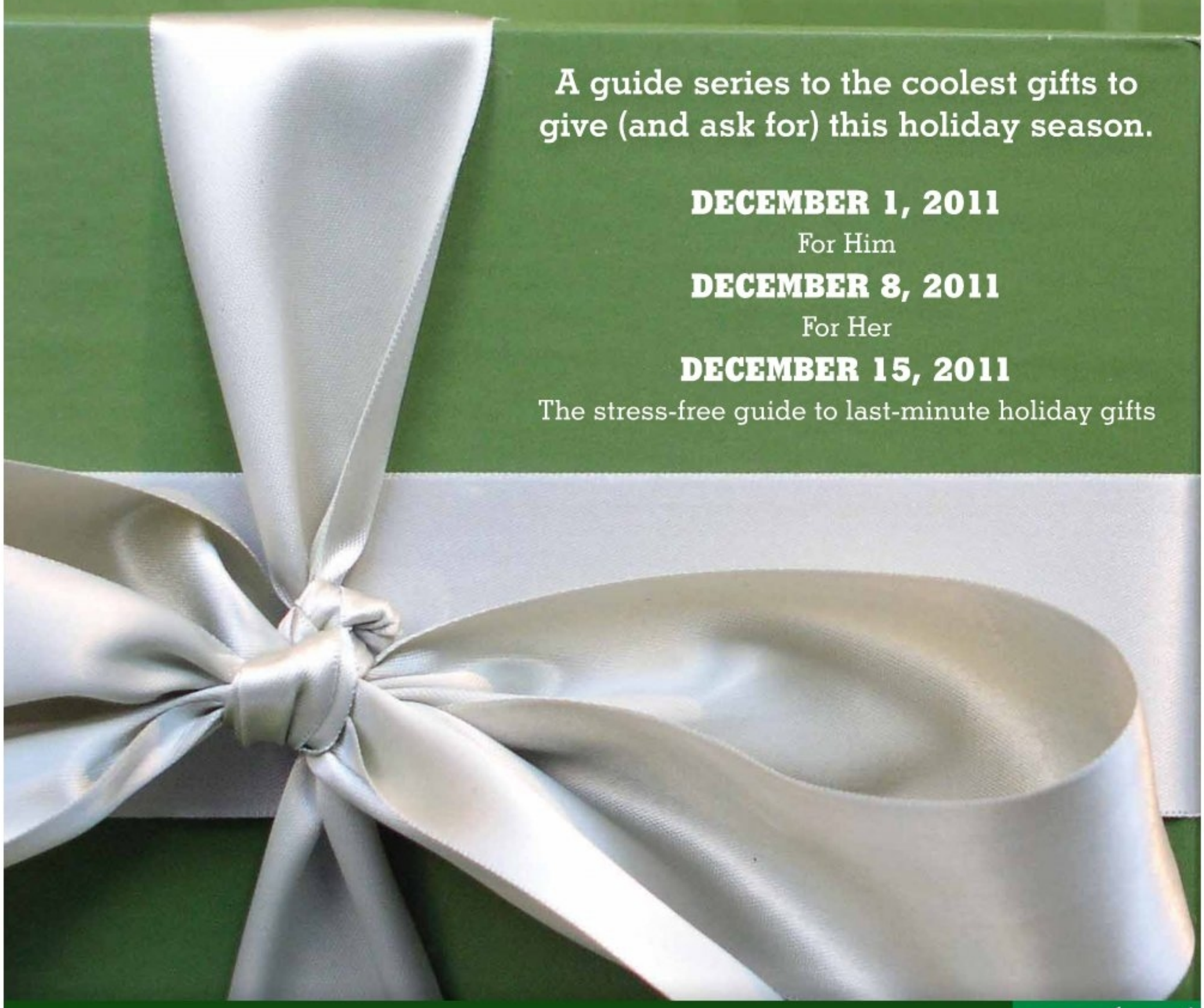
'Looney Tunes Platinum Collection: Volume One' [Blu-ray]
Bugs and the gang get a high-definition upgrade in this set that includes 50 beloved "Looney Tunes" titles.
List price: $59.96

'Modern Family: The Complete Second Season' [DVD]
Here's one extended family you won't mind seeing over the holidays.
List price: $49.98

'The Original Christmas Classics' [Blu-ray]
Santa Claus, Rudolph and Frosty the Snowman — the classic Rankin/Bass Christmas TV specials are bundled together and now available on Blu-ray.
List price: $44.95

'Thor' [Two-Disc Blu-ray/DVD Combo + Digital Copy]
Chris Hemsworth is the mighty god of thunder who is brought to his knees when he disobeys his father and is banished to Earth. **List price:** $44.99

HOLIDAY
GIFT GUIDE SERIES



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DECEMBER 8, 2011

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